



St Augustine's Academy Newsletter

7th May 2021



Headteacher's Message - Hedgehog Awareness

Dear Parents, Carers and Children,



Hedgehog Awareness Display in Ashton Square



St Augustine's was delighted to be able to help Dunstable Hedgehogs promote Hedgehog Awareness Week, by producing posters, models and artwork for a special display in Ashton Square, Dunstable.

The children spent time learning about hedgehogs, their habitats and how to take care of them through special lessons at school and were excited to be able to help.

If you are in Dunstable this weekend, then please take a look. Not only will you be able to see your children's work but you will learn some interesting information about hedgehogs too.

Enjoy the display.

Amanda Howes
Headteacher



Parent/Carer Survey – Children's Vocabulary

We are excited to be involved in a 2 year, action research programme with The Schools Of Tomorrow Fellowship.



The project is called 'Build Back Better' and is for schools, like us, who believe that the experience of coronavirus and lockdown, offers a unique opportunity for a deep re-think on how we do things, and reflect on much of what we often take for granted.

The focus of our project will be on helping children to develop their vocabulary. Staff have been learning from the book 'Closing the Vocabulary Gap' by Alex Quigley and we are in the process of planning how, as a school community, we can help our children to develop a real excitement for words.

To help us plan, we need your help. We have created a simple survey for you to complete, it should only take a couple of minutes. You may complete a survey for each child.

If you place your name on the survey, then we will make sure that your child receives a prize from the school's prize box as a thank you for taking part. 😊

The link to the survey is...

<https://forms.gle/CdJGjXKHqPiQdKHx6>

Mental Health Awareness Week

MENTALLY HEALTHY SCHOOLS



Anna Freud
National Centre for Children and Families

Mental Health Awareness Week takes place from 10th - 16th May, and provides a great opportunity for us all to normalise the discussion of mental health and wellbeing amongst pupils and adults.

The theme for this year's week is 'nature'. Recent National Trust research found a link between feeling connected to nature and having improved wellbeing. In school, pupils and staff, will take part in a range of activities next week to support their wellbeing.

'Let your light shine before others that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.' Matthew 5:16

Celebrations

CONGRATULATIONS to the following children.

Our Stars of the Week are...

Reception - Andreas
Year 1 - Courtney
Year 2 - Mya-Rose
Year 3 - Hayley
Year 4 - Finn
Year 5 - Jasmin
Year 6 - Lillyanna

Our 'SELF' Pupils of the Week for,
"What makes you feel like giving up or stop
trying?" are...

Reception - Kendall
Year 1 - Samiksh
Year 2 - Armel
Year 3 - Carlos
Year 4 - Isabelle
Year 5 - Jacob
Year 6 - Jake



Our Mathematicians of the Week are...

Reception - Paige
Year 1 - Lili
Year 2 - Laelia
Year 3 - Willow
Year 4 - Vanessa
Year 5 - Jack
Year 6 - Adrian

Our Attendance Bear Winner this week is...



The House Point totals this week are...



Value of the Half Term - Service



The Big Pedal



Well done to everyone who participated in the Big Pedal over the last two weeks. As a school, we took part in 2175 journeys on foot, by bike, by scooter or on wheels. We ended up in 242nd place (across the country) with 69.44% of journeys being active.

Congratulations to the following children who received a prize for their active travelling to school: Aleksander, Tommie, Terri, Saoirse, Mason B, Billy, Ronnie, Bobbie-Lee and Scarlett G.

Prefix of the Week



Mis



Mis is from Latin and means 'bad' or 'wrongly'.

You find '**Mis**' as a prefix in many English words.

Misbehave – To behave badly

Misplace – Put something in the wrong place or lose it temporarily

Mistake – To be wrong about something

Misread – To read words or interpret behaviour wrongly

Misunderstand – Fail to interpret something correctly

Mistreat – To treat a person or animal badly, cruelly or unfairly

Diary Dates

Thu. 20 th May	Special Menu Day – Italian!
Fri. 28 th May	Last day of the half term
Mon. 7 th Jun.	Children return to school
Thu. 22 nd Jul.	Last day of term

Sometimes we have to change diary dates due to circumstances beyond our control. Please keep checking the school diary regularly for updates.



School Guidelines

Expectations for Pupils, Parents and Carers



When our school reopens to all pupils again in September, it is important that we all follow Government guidelines, our Risk Register controls and our own 'St Augustine's Way' to ensure that everyone is as safe as possible. The list of expectations below must be followed by all pupils, parents and carers to help our school stay a safe environment for all.

Pupils Expectations:

- *Live the St Augustine's Way by following our Golden Rules 'Show Respect, Be Kind and Try Our Best' and remembering our values.*
- *Keep yourself and others safe by:*
 - *Listening carefully to school staff and following their instructions*
 - *Waiting patiently – everything will take longer than usual*
 - *Entering the school building separately and patiently at start time*
 - *Social Distancing e.g. Play games that do not involve touching others*
Keep 2 metres apart from adults, and from children not in your bubble
Follow the school's one-way system
Stay in your designated areas for play and lunch times
 - *Washing your hands when you enter the school and at regular times during the day*
 - *Leaving all PE kit and toys at home and only bringing essential equipment to school*
 - *Avoid sharing or touching other people's personal things e.g. water bottles*
 - *Avoiding touching your mouth, nose, and eyes*
 - *Remembering to 'Catch it, Bin it, Kill it'*
 - *Avoiding putting things in your mouth e.g. pencil*
 - *If you wear a face covering or mask to school, you must take it off before you enter the school building and give it to your parent or carer to throw away or take home.*
- *Wear your school uniform; wear your PE kit to school on PE days*



Remember – If you are unsafe, consequences will be given, and your parents/carers informed. This includes actions such as: deliberately coughing or spitting, touching others, playing unsafe games, and not following social distancing rules.

Parents and Carers Expectations:

- *DO NOT bring your child/ren to school if they (or anyone in your household) have Coronavirus symptoms but follow the Government guidance here:*
<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>
- *Collect your child immediately if you are called regarding illness*
- *Support the school in getting a test and engaging with Track and Trace if Covid-19 symptoms are detected in school*
- *ONLY 1 Parent/Carer may enter the school site (past the silver gates), to bring their child to school*
- *Ensure that your child has good attendance and is only away from school if they are ill*
- *Encourage walking, cycling or scooting to school*
- *Young children must always stay next to their parent/carers (e.g. buggy, holding hands, reins)*
- *Ensure social distancing from other adults while waiting for the doors to open – as per government guidance*
- *Be on time. (Please do not arrive too early as this will cause congestion and unnecessary mixing with other families – if your child's allotted time is missed then please phone the school for further instructions.) Remember, Breakfast Club will only run for the children of Key Workers. We will inform you of other clubs as they become available.*
- *Do not congregate outside the school gates; this will enable others to come into school safely*
- *Adults should wear a mask when dropping off and picking up children from school.*
- *Support school staff in reinforcing health and safety messages and set a good example by following them too.*
- *Do not attempt to enter the school building or meet with staff at the start or end of the school day but contact the office by telephone or email if you have a message for a staff member.*
- *Ensure that the school's uniform policy, including for jewellery and hair, is followed. If you have any issues concerning uniform then please contact the school before we return on the 8th March.*



Remember – Parents/carers/younger siblings will not be permitted to enter the school building at drop off and pick-up times. This includes for use of the toilet.

Support and Advice

The table below gives a whole range of support services that you can access for help and advice. Please use them. This is a really testing time for us all and we all need a little bit of help and support sometimes. Remember, if you feel you can't cope, you can also ring the school to speak to someone.

Service	Number	Website	Information
Child Line	0800 1111	https://www.childline.org.uk/	Child Line is a free, private and confidential service where young people can talk about anything. Support is available online, on the phone, anytime
Rev Ricky Dunstable Team Vicars	01582 528485	Contact – rickyturner@ntlworld.com PrayDunstable@gmail.com	Prayer and general help and support.
MIND	0300 300 0648	https://www.mind.org.uk/	Mind offers information and advice to people with mental health problems
Headspace		https://www.headspace.com/ App is available to download on the App store or Google Play	Mental health activities. Provides guided meditations, animations, articles and videos
Victim Support	0808 1689111	https://www.victimsupport.org.uk/	Free and confidential support for people affected by crime and traumatic events – regardless of whether you have reported the crime to the police or not
Salvation Army	01582 606031	https://www.salvationarmy.org.uk/dunstable	The Samaritans offer a church and social services to support those in need
Kooth		https://kooth.com/	Kooth is an online and confidential service giving help and advice about emotional health to young people
Samaritans	116 123	https://www.samaritans.org/	Free and confidential support and advice
Anxiety UK	TextService: 07537 416 905 Infoline: 03444 775 774	https://www.anxietyuk.org.uk/	Anxiety UK relieve and support those living with anxiety and anxiety-based depression by providing information, support and understanding
Youngminds	Parents Helpline 0808 802 5544	https://youngminds.org.uk/	A UK charity fighting for children and young people's mental health
Signpost	0800 0282 887	https://www.signpostforbedfordshire.com/	Support for those affected by crime
NSPCC	0808 800 5000	https://www.nspcc.org.uk/	Help for adults concerned about a child
National Online Safety		https://nationaleducationgroup.cmail20.com/t/t-l-nkrhuy-fyhllutij-y/	Highly visual and informative Online Safety posters for parents, carers and children
Central Bedfordshire Council		https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers	Coronavirus – Information for Parents and Carers
Central Bedfordshire Children's Services	0300 300 8585 Out of hours: 0300 300 8123		If you think a child you know is being harmed or at risk of being harmed, please contact the Access and Referral Hub, who you can talk to about your concerns. All child protection calls are treated in confidence and you don't need to give your details

You can also find the latest information updates on the corona virus at: <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>



Dear Parent/Guardian,

Our school is delighted to be taking part in Royal Mail's Heroes Stamp Design Competition, honouring the heroes of the coronavirus pandemic.

Eight pupils from primary and secondary schools across the UK will become the designers of this stamp set, and one could be your child!

Each entry we send in will have the name of each child, plus their age and our school's name and postcode.

Before we submit entries to Royal Mail we need explain how Royal Mail will use these details.

Royal Mail will use these details of children who enter (i.e. name, age, school name and postcode) to run the competition, including to contact the winners and distribute prizes. Royal Mail will share this information with iChild Limited and The Education Company Limited, who are helping Royal Mail to run the competition.

Except in the case of the 120 children who reach the Regional Finalists stage, Royal Mail will delete all of this data by 30th September 2021.

As is usual in competitions, Royal Mail may, if requested, tell the Advertising Standards Authority of those winners' surnames and counties. Members of the public will also be able to ask Royal Mail for that information after 30th September 2021. If you object to your child's surname and county being available to members of the public, you should write to Heroes Stamp Design Competition, Royal Mail Group, 185 Farringdon Road, London EC1A 1AA. However, Royal Mail may still need to give this information to the Advertising Standards Authority on a confidential basis.

If your child enters the competition, Royal Mail has what data protection law calls a "legitimate interest" to use your child's details (i.e. name, age, school name and postcode) in the ways described above. However, your decision of what is best for your child takes priority, so if you have any concerns please let your child's teacher know not to include your child's design in the competition.

Please refer to Royal Mail's Privacy Notice at <https://www.royalmailgroup.com/en/site/privacy-notice/> for more information about how to exercise data protection rights, contact Royal Mail's Data Protection Officer or raise complaints with the Information Commissioner's Office.

If your child is one of the competition winners, Royal Mail will contact you separately, via the school, to discuss whether you would be willing to take part in publicity.

Thank you,

Heroes Stamp Design Competition

In association with **iChild**